etc. Engineering Export Promotion Council also provide item specific promotional support for better access into the world market. Because of these export promotion measures/efforts, the exports of cars and jeeps have been showing rising trend.

Losses Due to Strike For Bonus

456. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Ministries/Departments together with staff strength which went on strike on the question of enhancement of upper limit of bonus in October 1996, State-wise;

(b) the approximate loss to the Government in terms of loss of mandays, and

(c) the reasons for not talking a consolidated decision on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The requisite information is not Centrally maintained.

(c) Originally, the proposal for removing eligibility wage ceiling for grant of bonus was received from the Ministry of Railways. The Government, therefore, took a decision in their favour. When demands were raised by the employees of other Ministries/Departments it was decided to extend the same benefit to all Group C and D employees of the Central Government.

Manufacturing of Electric Cars

457. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to encourage manufacturing of Electric Car;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the permission so far given and the proposal pending with the Union Government; and

(d) the details of incentives, if any, being given in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government's policy is to encourage manufacture of electric cars as such cars are emission friendly and conserve fossil fuel. Fiscal incentives are being provided to such vehicles.

(c) Manufacture of all types of cars is presently delicensed. Before delicensing, Government had approved the following proposals for manufacture of electric cars :

(i) Eddy Current (India) Ltd., Kerala

(ii) Pankaj Dubey of New Delhi.

The proposal of M/s Maini Amerigon Car Company (P) Ltd. USA, for setting up joint venture to manufacture electric powered car has been approved recently.

(d) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources grants a subsidy of Rs.2 lakhs for each batttery operated passenger vehicle (4 wheeler).

Central Grants to States

458. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA
SHRI M. SELVARASU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have released the full amount/grants sanctioned to the States particularly Orissa State for the annual plan of 1995-96 and 1996-97 till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Governments also sought extra financial assistance during the last three years, till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(e) the amount actually allocated by the Union Government during the above period; and

(f) the reasons for not provided full amount sought by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Central Plan assistance consists of normal Central assistance, additional Central assistance for externally aided projects, Central assistance for Centrally sponsored schemes transferred to States and special Central assistance for Area Programmes. The States are given funds under above items as per their sanctions/ allocation.

Statement-I showing the amount sanctioned to States for the above said types said types of Central assistance and the amount released thereagainst to them is enclosed.

(c) to (f). The annual Plans of States are finalised by the Planning Commission to be funded by States own resources, Centrally allocated resources like market borrowings, negotiated loans and by Central assistance. The annual Plans are fully funded.

The States do approach the Central Government for additional assistance due to special circumstances. The Central Government, keeping in view its resource constraints and financial implications, provide addtional assistance in very special cases. Based on the information available in the Ministry of Finance, Statement-II showing details of requests received from the State Governments by this Ministry during 1993-94 to 1996-97 and the amount provided thereagainst to them till 20.11.1996 is enclosed.